



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 4, 2007

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**OMAHA ARTIST KRISTIN PLUHACEK
SELECTED AS 2007 FEATURED ARTIST**

Kristin Pluhacek has been selected as the featured artist of the 2007 Omaha Summer Arts Festival presented by First National Bank. Pluhacek's vibrant illustration, entitled "Sunflower," will be featured on the event's promotional materials including posters, T-shirts, television commercials and web site.

"I wanted to address the personal experience of visiting the Festival, but placing an actual human face on the event would have been limiting," said Pluhacek, describing the inspiration for her illustration. "Each year, a small crop of sunflowers grows outside my kitchen window. They command the area once they've arrived and, with their large size and watchful 'face', they have a lot of personality. Sunflowers lean, they turn, they sag, they assess. They also suggest the sun and summer and fun - all of which are indicative of the Omaha Summer Arts Festival."

A Nebraska native, Kristin is known for her use of vibrant color in interpretive pastel drawings. Her expressive spatial relationships and movement within the subject add a unique life to her drawings. Her works have been exhibited in fine arts galleries and museums throughout the Midwest, and are also found in numerous public and private collections. Currently, she lives a full life in Omaha, Nebraska with her husband and their two sons. She is an alumnus of Creighton University.

"As a lifelong Omahan, I have many fond memories of the Summer Arts Festival, and am pleased to be a part of publicizing this stellar event," added Pluhacek. For more information about Kristin Pluhacek and samples of her work, please visit www.kkpluhacek.net.

Artists interested in being the featured illustrator for future Summer Arts Festival's are encouraged to contact Carly Barth at (402) 345-5401 or cbarth@vgagroup.com

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